

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RAPIDLY ASSAYING  
ALDEHYDE-CONTAINING DISINFECTANT**

Abstract of the Disclosure

A simple assay is described to determine the presence of a point of interest of an  
5 aldehyde such as OPA, glutaraldehyde or formaldehyde in a test solution such as a  
disinfectant. The aldehyde is reacted with a calculated amount of a reagent such as  
sodium bisulfite or sodium cyanide. This reaction produces a solution with a first color.  
This first color may be colorless. The remaining aldehyde is reacted with a compound  
containing an amino group such as an amino acid to produce a second color. The  
10 observation of a color confirms the presence of a certain amount of the aldehyde in the  
test solution. If no color is developed, then the aldehyde concentration is below a  
certain specification. The specific concentration point may be adjusted to practically  
any point by adjusting the amounts of the chemical reagents used or by using a different  
amount of aldehyde in the solution to be tested.

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